

VZCZCXRO5864
OO RUEHBZ RUEH DU RUEHJO RUEHMR RUEHRN
DE RUEHLG #0853 3181306
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 141306Z NOV 07
FM AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4799
INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0565

UNCLAS LILONGWE 000853

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR IO LINDA LUM AND AMY OSTERMEIER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [AORC](#) [SOCI](#) [UNGA](#) [MI](#)
SUBJECT: MALAWI WILL MAINTAIN SUPPORT FOR US RESOLUTION
CONDEMNING RAPE

REF: A. A) SECSTATE 155063

[1](#)B. B) LILONGWE 794

[1](#)1. (SBU) On November 13, Ambassador delivered reftel demarche to Foreign Minister Joyce Banda and Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Ben Mbewe regarding the US-sponsored resolution condemning rape as a tool of conflict or oppression. Foreign Minister Banda was horrified to learn that some African countries claiming to represent the African Group were attempting to water down the resolution. (While the Principal Secretary was conversant on the resolution, the Foreign Minister did not seem informed on the issue despite assurances made previously by officials in the Foreign Ministry to discuss the resolution with her. Ref B) Both she and the Principal Secretary promised to contact Malawi's permanent mission to the UN and instruct the representative to maintain the focus of the resolution on rape as an instrument of political or military objectives.

[1](#)2. (U) We suggest that USUN follow up with the permanent mission of Malawi to ensure the message to support the resolution has been delivered.

EASTHAM